

Tobacco and Health Trust Fund Board Meeting

Friday, October 19, 2018
2:00 p.m.
Legislative Office Building
Room 1D
Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present: Anne Foley (Chair), Patricia Checko, Kelly Leppard, Ellen Dornelas, Cheryl Resha, Andrew Salner, and Suchitra Krishnan-Sarin.

| | |
|---|--|
| Welcome and Introductions | Chair Foley convened the meeting at 2:10 p.m. and noted the absence of a quorum. Members introduced themselves. |
| Approval of the December 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes | Due to the lack of a quorum the December 20, 2017 Draft Meeting Minutes were not approved. |
| Status of Tobacco and Health Trust Funds | <p>Chair Foley explained that Public Act 17-2, June Special Session, suspended the statutory required transfer to the Trust Fund in FY 18 and FY 19 and Public Act 18-81 permanently terminated the annual transfer to the Trust Fund. She noted that Public Act 18-168 maintains the Board in statute, however, it eliminates the requirement that the Board must meet biannually and suspends reporting requirements in any fiscal year following a fiscal year which no funds are transferred to the Trust Fund. The legislation can be found at: Tobacco Board Legislative Changes</p> <p>After a discussion on the status of the Tobacco and Health Trust Funds, members asked that OPM send out information on the master tobacco settlement fund and the status of the Biomedical Research Trust Fund.</p> <p>Members commented that they will contact the new administration and legislature to advocate for the reinstatement of funds to the Trust Fund. Members will discuss with their appointing authority the status of their membership to the Board.</p> |
| Update on On-going Board Funded Programs | Barbara Walsh from the Department of Public Health provided an update on the on-going 2015 and 2016 Trust Funded programs. An update on the Tobacco and Health Trust Funded Programs can be found at: 2015-2016 Trust Funded Programs . |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Update on the Department of Correction (DOC) Trust Funded Programs</p> | <p>Dr. Kathleen Maurer and Dr. Wendy Ulasezk provided an update on DOC's on-going Smoking Cessation Education and Relapse Prevention Program and the Halfway House Smoking Project. Dr. Maurer noted that DOC is in the process of preparing an article on the Trust Funded programs. Members asked that the article be forwarded to the Board so they can help promote it. An update on DOC's programs can be found at: DOC HWH Summary Handout for HWH Residents, DOC HWH 2017-18 Resident Survey Summary, DOC Half-way House (HWH) Smoking Cessation Implementation Summary (tasks to date through July 3, 2018)</p> <p>Dr. Maurer thanked Board members for their continued support of DOC's trust funded programs.</p> |
| <p>Summary of Trust Funded Programs</p> | <p>Chair Foley stated that the Summary of the Trust Funded Programs will be posted to the Tobacco and Health Trust Fund Board website and will be used to inform the new administration of the Board's work over the years. She noted that, since its inception, the Board has disbursed \$29 million including, \$8.7 million for cessation programs, \$7.1 million for the QuitLine, \$6.6 million for tobacco counter-marketing and \$3.4 million for prevention programs. She also noted that the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will develop a more detailed retrospective report on the Board's work.</p> <p>Chair Foley noted that since the beginning of the Trust Fund the adult cigarette use declined from 22.8% to 13.3 % which is a significant decrease of 41%. She noted that the youth cigarette used declined from 25.6% to 3.5% which is a striking reduction of 86%. She expressed that while the cigarette smoking rates have decreased, the use of other tobacco products such as vaping among youth has increased.</p> <p>Members suggested the following changes to the Summary of Trust Funded Programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include as part of the conclusion a statement that acknowledges that, while the Board is satisfied with the reduction in cigarette tobacco use, it recognizes the challenge of other tobacco use remains a major problem. • Add a paragraph on the outcomes, effectiveness and successes of DOC's Trust Funded programs. • Add vignettes highlighting other program success stories. |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Other | <p>Chair Foley expressed her appreciation for each of the members' dedication to the Board over the years. She noted that through their expertise and knowledge the Board was able to disburse close to \$30 million dollars for programming, which helped to reduce the cigarette rates in Connecticut. Chair Foley, along with several members of the Board, thanked Pam Trotman from OPM for all her work and assistance to the Board.</p> <p>Members thanked Chair Foley for her leadership of the Board.</p> |
| Adjournment | <p>Andy Salner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:15 p.m. The motion was seconded by Patricia Checko.</p> |

DRAFT